

LEAKE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

For the Year ending 31st December, 1900.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honor to present to you my Annual Report on the Health of your District, during the Year 1900.

BIRTHS.

The total number of births registered was 88, which is 9 less than last year, and 11 less than the average of the last six years. This is an annual birth rate of 23·8 per thousand.

MORTALITY.

The total number of deaths registered as occurring within the district was 61, but there were 2 deaths of persons belonging to the District which occurred at Loughborough, and which brings the total up to 63, which is an annual death rate of 17 per thousand of the population; this is 2·4 per thousand more than in 1899, and 3 per thousand more than the average of the last six years. This increased mortality was principally of old persons, and caused mainly by the inclement weather at the beginning of the year, and by Influenza which was then prevalent.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The total number of deaths of infants under one year was 5, which is one more than last year, but is 3 less than the average of the last six years. This diminished infantile mortality speaks well for the sanitary condition of the District, as does also the fact that there were no deaths from infantile Diarrhoea.

ZYMOTIC MORTALITY.

There were 6 deaths from Zymotic diseases, namely 2 from Whooping Cough at Sutton Bonington, 1 from Diphtheria at Costock, 2 from Influenza one at East Leake and one at Wysall, there was also 1 death from Erysipelas at Willoughby. This is a Zymotic Mortality of 1·6 per thousand, which is about the average.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total number of cases notified was 48, and were as follows: Diphtheria 2, Erysipelas 4, Scarlet fever 40, Enteric fever 1, Puerperal fever 1.

DIPHTHERIA.

Two cases of this disease occurred at Costock in March, one of which terminated fatally. The house was damp and the drinking water was impure, an order was made by the Council for an improvement of these conditions.

ERYSIPELAS.

Four cases of this disease occurred, two at Costock, one at Sutton Bonington, and one at Willoughby, this last case terminated fatally. There were no insanitary conditions associated with these cases.

SCARLET FEVER.

Forty cases of this disease were notified during the year. The epidemic of 1899 at East Leake which was abating at the beginning of the year spread to Normanton, Stanford, and Sutton Bonington on the one side, and Costock on the other. On the 22nd January it became necessary to close the schools at East Leake for three weeks and this segregation of children was followed by a disappearance of the epidemic in the parish. The cases were mostly of a mild character, there was no mortality from this cause.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Only one case of this disease occurred during the year, and that at Sutton Bonington. The drinking water was found to be impure, an order was made for the cleansing of the well. The absence of this disease from the remainder of the District is very satisfactory.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

One case of this disease was notified at Willoughby in May.

There were no cases of the other notifiable Infectious diseases.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply of the District is derived exclusively from wells, and as the quality of well water is constantly liable to change on account of contamination from soakage of liquid filth from the surface of the adjacent ground, movement of subsoil water, &c., this matter has received very careful attention during the year. Thirty-eight samples of drinking water were taken by the Inspector and submitted to me for analysis. In seventeen of these, or nearly half, the water was so impure as to justify me in condemning it as unfit for drinking. In each of these cases steps were taken to provide a suitable supply of drinking water.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

This is accomplished in the old fashioned manner by the common midden and privy arrangement, and it has answered fairly satisfactorily, cases of overfull and leaky middens occasionally occur, but they are soon detected by the Inspector who takes steps to prevent a recurrence of the nuisance.

The District at the end of the year was free from infectious disease. A perusal of the Report of the Inspector of Nuisances appended hereto will show the large amount of Sanitary work accomplished during the year.

Annexed to this report are tabulated statistics prepared according to the forms prescribed by the Local Government Board. Since my last Annual Report the form of tables have been revised, and a perusal of the tables will shew that considerable additional information is now required by the Department.

In addition to the information given in the tables, I have computed the death rates of the several parishes in the district of the Council, which are as follows: Costock 17·4, East Leake 18·3, Normanton 23·6, Rempstone 6·6, Stanford 6·0, Sutton Bonington 17·1, West Leake 25·9, Wysall with Thorpe-in-the-Glebe 8·8, Willoughby 14·4.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,
THOMAS CORCORAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

Loughborough,
6th February, 1901.

STATISTICS.

The population of the District is (1891 census) 3693. Area 17,076 acres. Inhabited houses 889. Average number of persons per house 4·1.

Mortality from subjoined causes:— Whooping Cough 2, Diphtheria 1, Epidemic Influenza 2, Diarrhoea 1, Erysipelas 1, Other septic diseases 1, Phthisis 4, Other tubercular disease 1, Cancer 5, Bronchitis 6, Pneumonia 3, Premature Birth 1, Heart Disease 7, Accidents 1, Other Causes 25, All Causes 61.

Parish.	Births Registered.	Average last 6 years.	Deaths Registered.	Average last 6 years.
Costock	6	8	5	4·6
East Leake	22	27	15	12·6
Normanton	14	10	8	4·5
Rempstone	7	7	2	4·1
Stanford-on-Soar	2	5	1	1·1
Sutton Bonington	19	24	18	13
West Leake	0	3	4	3·5
Willoughby-on-the-Wolds	13	10	6	7
Wysall with Thorpe in the Glebe	5	5	2	2·8

For the whole District, Births registered 88, rate per thousand of population 23·8. Average last six years, Births 99, rate 25·3. Deaths 61, rate 16·5. Average 52, rate 13·8.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Leake Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have during the past year made 448 inspections in parishes comprising the Leake Rural District, and 113 re-inspections. Houses disinfected and cleansed after Scarlet or Typhoid fever 33. Of these I have personally disinfected at the expense of the Authority 25. The sewage dykes of the various parishes have been periodically cleansed as required. Samples of drinking water taken for analysis 38. Wells cleansed by order of Council 8. New wells sunk and fresh water supply provided 2. Overcrowding in 3 houses has been abated. New Middens built by order of Council 6, and cleansed 6. Accumulations of filth removed 9. Houses closed as dangerous and unfit for human habitation 1. Drains taken up and cleansed or new provided by owners 6, by Council 9.

I have at various times visited the Factories and Workshops and found them clean and well kept. I have visited the cowsheds of the purveyors of milk, and found the requirements contained in the Dairy, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1885, were being carried out. Five fresh dairies have been registered.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
GALLIO BOWLES,
Sanitary Inspector.

East Leake,
31st Dec., 1900.

